

## THE EVENING STAR.

WASHINGTON.

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CROSBY S. NOYES, Editor.

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## In Conference.

The District appropriation bill is now before the conferees, and there is no reason to doubt that it will be finally shaped in ample season for passage before the beginning of the coming fiscal year, when it is to take effect. In all 177 amendments were added to the bill by the conferees. These are of various kinds. Some, however, affect vital interests. Three separate groups stand conspicuously forth as of the first consequence in comparison with the others, as they relate directly to the urgent public needs of the capital. These are the amendments for the maintenance of the free library, which has been so long delayed; another is the provision for an increase in the available water supply through the completion of the aqueduct tunnel and reservoir and for an inquiry into the feasibility and need of filtration; a third is the series relating to the sewer system, so sadly in need of extensions and improvements. These three sets of changes affect matters that have been urged by the citizens for several sessions. The free library bill has been postponed until it has become one of the "standing demands" of the District. By no just device can it be excluded from the bill this year. The amendments relating to the water supply and the sewers are so closely related to the health of the city that they should be considered without question. They are recognized by all authorities as absolutely essential, and Congress has before it now merely the question of economy. The wisest view of the case is that the surest economy is a present provision for these necessities, which accumulate in expense as they are postponed from year to year. The water supply items involve no new drain upon the general government, for the amendment so far as the nation is concerned merely make available the money now lying idle in the treasury, remaining over from a former appropriation. The sewerage items are so urgent that the question of economy should in no wise be permitted to apply to them.

There is much excellent material in the bill as a whole, and it can not be questioned that in the light of the experience of the past the conferees, who are well aware of the needs of the District, will deal justly and wisely this year in their final work on the budget.

## Will the Democrats Blunder Against?

In our civil war the democratic party was divided into two camps. One was the "war democrats," who patriotically supported the war, and the other the "peace democrats," who violently opposed it. The war democrats, though men of the highest standing in the party ranks for character, wisdom and ability, were outvoted overwhelmingly by the "peace democrats." This unpatriotic democratic majority were able to do much injury to the Union cause, to protract the war greatly, and to add enormously to the loss of life and the burden of debt thereby involved. But the result was that the "peace democrats" were buried under a load of popular execration and so discredited as a party that for a quarter of a century they were kept out of all part in public affairs.

Will the democrats now repeat the blunders of the past? Will they follow the lead of Senator White, who has been so long in opposition to the government in the successful prosecution of the present war? If they do it is safe to predict that they will remain out of power for another quarter of a century, at least.

Some enthusiastic American has discovered that among their other rich products the Philippines produce a total of about 250,000 tons of sugar each year. Sh-sh! If the Sugar Trust ever hears of that item it will peremptorily order the war stopped before the transports that are carrying troops to occupy Manila can get there.

There is some retribution in the fact that the common people of Spain are so severely confident that their country is all that could be desired, while the people who have deceived and imposed on them are walking the floor.

Mr. Champ Clark's fear that the "Gentlemen from the Philippines" may rise to address the chamber need not worry him. Gas has been blown out in Washington before now.

Spain has some reason to regret that she did not train gunners instead of matadors.

The District's Sewer Needs.

The District appropriation bill in its present form deals far more generously and justly with the local needs of the city than has been the fortune of the capital for many sessions. The local sewer system has been a continuing source of complaint ever since the city began to assume its modern proportions, and now that it is of metropolitan rank its necessities require that it be treated as such.

In many respects the sewer system of Washington is dangerously inadequate. Some years ago an expert commission was organized to formulate a plan for the general extension of the sewers and to devise a comprehensive method of sewage disposal. The scheme thereby evolved has been urged upon Congress.

The old method of dealing with the sewerage problem was to appropriate a small sum annually, sufficient to provide for the current needs of the system and to add each year a trifling extension, sometimes permitting the Commissioners to enter into long-term contracts and providing for continuing allotments of money from year to year. In this manner much work has been started that has ultimately cost more than would have been the case had Congress outlined definitely at the outset the precise limitations of an enlarged scheme of operations and given assurance that the necessary funds would be forthcoming to meet the drafts as the work progressed. (One result of this plan has been to permit much work to be half done and then abandoned because of a failure of the appropriations. Much deterioration has resulted, and in some cases misfit constructions have been evolved.)

Finally profiting by the lessons of experience the citizens proposed to Congress that a broad plan of sewerage extension and disposal should be authorized in general conformity with the scheme of the sewer commission and that the money for the purpose be immediately raised by means of an issue of bonds. In this manner the work would be inaugurated at once with a minimum of loss by reason of deterioration and a speedy enjoyment of the results.

Congress has not given assent to this plan. This year, however, the Senate has treated the sewer needs with a wiser lib-

erality than formerly and has provided for much of the essential work in a series of important amendments that should assuredly be obtained in the bill by the conferees. The Senate increases aggregate \$1,035,000, of which \$246,000 is appropriated immediately, while \$789,000 is provided for in the form of continuing contracts, to be met as the work is advanced. The bill carries in all, for general and extension purposes, the sum of \$1,253,000, which is less than half of the amount that under the broad plan of sewer extension and sewage disposal will ultimately be required. The items are all necessary for the preservation of the general health of the District. They tend toward a removal of some of the evils that have menaced the capital for several years, and when the work authorized by the bill as it stands has been finished the city will be well along toward the ideal stage of municipal development in the matter of a sewer system.

## A Session in Summer.

The New York Sun, in some timely observations on the duty of Congress with respect to Hawaiian annexation, says:

"Washington is a hot town in July and August; but, as we have already remarked, Manila is hotter. The hottest place of all, however, is in the immediate neighborhood of any statesman who runs away from the thermometer and duty to seek personal comfort while our brave soldiers and tars are fighting for their lives and for the flag under the burnished sun of the tropics."

This point is exceedingly well taken. It ought to be stated, however, that the heat in Washington at any time does not bear severely on members of Congress. They have the pleasantest place for doing business in the town. The splendid white tile stands on an elevation, catches the breeze north, south, east and west, and the air within its walls is from ten to fifteen degrees cooler than the air outside. Real discomfort on account of the weather is never known there.

The Senate chamber in particular is a delightful spot. It has a commanding northern and western exposure. Huge doors and windows open in every direction. Huge electric fans are kept constantly whirling in the basement, the refreshing effects of which are felt in the very roof. The tipple is Apollinaris lemonade, ice cold and on tap in quantities. A short flight of stairs leads down to a restaurant where all the delicacies are served.

These provisions for comfort are praiseworthy and entirely well deserved. Congress is a most important branch of the government. But they should be remembered in the comparison between the conditions under which Congress is serving and those under which Dewey and his men at Manila and Sampson and his men at Santiago are serving. In the one place "all the comforts of home," in the other all the discomforts of mid-summer exposure at sea in the tropics.

It may be suggested that burning black under the sun in the tropics is less severe punishment than having to listen to a prosy harangue delivered against time; that neither electric fans nor Apollinaris lemonade can relieve the stupefying dullness of a legislative filibusterer in full swing. Granted. But the Senate can defend itself and abate the infliction. It has only to rally to its own relief and at a protracted sitting pump the lusty sons of Boreas out. The heat in Washington, never overpowering, cuts no figure in this matter of a fight for the country's welfare. Congress can easily stand a short summer racket. Let the country understand this.

## Sugar Trust Against the Country.

Whenever a tariff bill is making in Congress and the Sugar Trust puts in appearance and with characteristic effrontery essays to dictate terms, attention is widely called to the spectacle. The press denounces it, and senators and representatives are very chary about glorifying the Trust's interests. It is to nobody's credit to appear as the friend and fugleman of a corporation whose exploits have been so rapacious and unscrupulous. Those who play the Trust's hand do so by stealth.

And yet at such times the Sugar Trust is not so chary as it seems. It is its interests. Sugar refining is a legitimate industry. It has a right to reasonable protection under a tariff law drafted on protection lines. There can be no dispute as to that. The stir caused by its activity grows out of its graspingness and monumental impudence. It is not willing to stand on a plane with other American industries. It demands the fattest terms of all. It wants a schedule which will enrich it to the utmost possible degree, and put the whole sugar market of the country under its sticky thumb.

But what is this in comparison with the foreign policy of the government? Is this in this comparison with coming here at a time when the country is at war with a foreign power and undertaking to overthrow the advice of Generals Miles and Schofield and Admiral Walker and Captain Mahan as to a measure for the country's safety? What is this cold cheek has ever equaled this effort of the Sugar Trust to subordinate the welfare of the country to the profit and loss account of its general ledger? Jim Fisk was a man of effrontery in his day, but his genius was parochial in comparison with that of Havemeyer and the other Sugar Trust leaders. He may have deceived the earth, but he never had the audacity to go before Congress and ask for it.

And yet there are newspapers and public men whose gorge rises at the maneuvers of the Sugar Trust for an advantageous schedule in a tariff bill, but who can stand back, and even assist, the Trust fight a measure involving the safety and prosperity of the whole country. Why is this?

The Sugar Trust, in striving for a tariff schedule to its liking, is simply playing the game of business. But in seeking to prevent the annexation of Hawaii it not only far exceeds its functions but takes sides against the government itself.

Mr. Debs is still busy with schemes for remodeling society. He is apparently so absorbed in his own hobbies that he will leave the country to settle its international problems without his help.

It would be commendable of Spain to see that any money addressed to Blanco is in the form of gold. More paper certificates would not be worth the trouble of capture.

There are possibilities that the times will prove as unpropitious for juvenile Napoleons of finance as they are for ex-queens and amateur cars.

General Blanco's commissary department would doubtless esteem it a favor if the Americans would find and slaughter another mule.

Spain may have it in mind to tempt this country to continental European conquest so as to involve it with the powers.

## The Merrimack an Illegal Obstruction.

The other day in a debate in the cortes at Madrid a deputy who is described as of high dignity and repute solemnly asked the Duke of Almodovar de Rio, the minister of foreign affairs, whether it was regarded in international law as proper to use such expedients in blockading a port as to sink ships in the channel or to plant mines. The worthy nobleman as solemnly replied that the authorities were agreed that such actions were undoubtedly improper. This is a serious discovery, but it is difficult to see how the fault can now be remedied. Of course if the United States has unwittingly offended the ethics of warfare in bottling Admiral Cervera in Santiago harbor it is greatly to be regretted. The Spanish military authorities should take

caution from this experience and furnish this government with a list of the sins of omission and commission in war that we are expected to avoid. We strive to please. But after all the situation as disclosed by the colloquy in the cortes, just summarized, is strongly reminiscent of the retort of a man confined in jail to a visitor, who, after hearing the unfortunate one's story, indignantly observed that "they could never put you in jail for doing that." "That may be true," answered the prisoner, "but I'm here."

## Jerry Simpson continues to struggle to reconcile his political fortunes with prosperous times in Kansas.

Mr. Leiter made five million dollars in wheat, but ran through it very rapidly.

## SHOOTING STARS.

Doing Well.

"There's no use talking," said the broker enthusiastically, "that young man has a genius for finance."

"Has he closed his deal?"

"Yes. He started in with a million dollars. And he'll have over five hundred thousand of it left."

Veracious.

"You may send word home that we have scored another signal success," said the Spanish general.

"Didn't we run up a flag of truce and wasn't it recognized?"

"Well, isn't a flag of truce a signal? Hurry up. The public is looking for news from us, and we've got to give 'em something that'll get past the censor."

An Exasperation.

"What's the matter?" inquired the friend. "Your collar is wilted, you're out of breath and you're streaming with perspiration."

"I know it. I had resolved not to exert myself, but there are some things a man can't stand without resentment. I was getting along quietly and comfortably till one of these people who keep telling you to 'keep cool' came along."

The Attitudinizing Mercury.

"Keep looking upward," said the sage. The youth with pensive gaze replied: "To learn the temperature, one has to, now-a-days."

A Reasonable Inference.

"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I thought you said you had read aloud all there was in the paper about the war."

"I thought I had."

"Well, here's one about the Spanish fleet that you missed."

"What does it say?"

"I haven't read it yet. But its headed 'Mysterious Disappearance.'"

Significance.

De sun go sildin' down de w'es.

De moon gits big an' de day gits less.

An' de lights dat shine on de mountain line Make a combination supprisin' fine.

Foh de sun is red.

An' de clouds dat spread

'Cross de lonesome star is white

An' de sky is blue.

Honey, tell me true,

Kin you guess dat riddle right?

De worl' is roun', so de big book say;

Dem colors keeps a-trabblin' jes' dat way;

Dar isn't a spot dat dey'll ebber skip,

An' dey'll stah right in foh anuddah trip.

De sun is red.

An' de clouds dat spread

'Cross de lonesome star is white

An' de sky is blue.

Honey, tell me true,

Kin you guess dat riddle right?

A "Consoling Doctrine."

From the Philadelphia Press (Rep.).

It is a most "consoling doctrine" which Speaker Thomas Brackett Reed exposed in his article on the twenty-fifth page in these sound words:

"In neither statesmanship, politics, business, nor in the invention of a new machine upon accidents. Out of the bosom of the human race will come in all ages all that is necessary for continued progress. Whenever we have reached one point of civilization and come in sight of the next, no roaring rivers nor even the pathless ocean can stay our onward march. The rivers will be bridged by human inventions and we shall find a way to build the great ships which will take us all across."

True this is. Never truer than today for the United States. The nation has reached the boundary and limit of its continental progress. In one direction it has reached the Pacific, on the other on the Atlantic and Gulf. Trade, progress and the demands and duties of civilization beckon it over both.

Small it stop because the past has no precedents and lacks for inventions to meet the statesmanship of the hour? Far otherwise. Let it follow the "consoling doctrine" of Speaker Reed and move on. Let it annex the Hawaiian Islands, bridge the Pacific with coaling stations, "find a way" for "the great ships" of its navy, let it give up the hope of the future in Manila Bay, and in Havana harbor let them announce success, relief and freedom. Our past was great but our future must be made greater, not by standing still but by going forward.

Next Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock will be the day when the annexation of Hawaii will be the most "consoling doctrine" will be uppermost in Mr. Reed's most philosophic mind. Sincere, patriotic, dedicated to the public good, the man who is country and anxious to serve her, he has opposed the annexation of Hawaii, as many a sincere and patriotic American before him opposed the annexation of Louisiana, Texas and of California. The great current of national destiny was against him. In this one matter it is against him. He has learned from his own most inspiring and "consoling doctrine," perceive that the practice of the past no longer suits or equales the advances and the needs of the nation and hand his great and imperial powers of leadership with those who desire to see it that—

—his worth

Of Venice do not fall below its birth.

## Their Facility in Doing the Wrong Thing.

From the Chicago Tribune.

A significant result of the first day's debate was the fact brought out that the democratic members, with their usual facility in doing the wrong thing at exactly the right time, are manifesting a disposition to take ground against this war measure, just as their predecessors took ground against the most important war measures in the first years of the civil war—a policy for which their successors have not yet got enough apologizing. Judging of the future by the past, the democratic members today will have to pass through a similar period of apology.

## One of Their Usual Blunders.

Washington Dispatch to the Philadelphia Press.

The democrats are evidently making one of their usual blunders in opposing as a party the acquisition of Hawaii. Congressmen in all over the country are receiving letters from their constituents urging them to stand by the administration in its Hawaiian policy and going still further in demanding that if the United States should occupy Porto Rico and the Canaries as well as the Philippines, that all that Spanish territory should be held for all time.

## The Man Without a Country.

From the Boston Journal (rep.).

Dr. Hale had no individual in mind, but when he wrote "the man who by looking backward . . . delays for one hour peace between Spain and this nation is to all intents and purposes a Man Without a Country," he came very near preaching a timely, patriotic sermon to his scholarly friend, Charles Eliot Norton.

## Collapse of the Letter Wheat Deal.

From the New York Herald.

Such "deals" work evil, and few will be found to deplore the fact that they bring disaster to their promoters.

And Have a Big Margin Over.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

The Omaha exposition is prospering in spite of the war. This country is big enough to lick Spain and progress in the arts of peace at the same time.

Beveridge's, 1215 F St.

CHINA, GLASS, HOUSEFURNISHINGS, &amp;c.

For Your Country Home.

You can't afford to miss visiting this store when selecting Glass, China, Silver, Housefurnishings, Goods, etc., for your country home. An examination of our goods and prices will readily convince you of the sterling values we offer.

English Decorated DIXON &amp; CO. 112 pieces \$10 up.

On our 2d floor are many choice pieces in "Decorated Haviland" "Open Stock" Dinner Ware—at 25 per cent discount.

Dinner Plates—were \$4.00 doz.—\$3.00.

Breakfast Plates—were \$3.25 doz.—\$2.44.

Tea Plates—were \$3.00 doz.—\$2.25.

Our bargain tables on the first floor contain many desirable articles for table use.

Good quality of Pressed Tumblers, with Band.

25c. Dozen.

Thin-blown Tumblers have advanced in price. We were fortunate enough to secure a large stock at the old price, and offer the best quality of Thin Blown Table Tumblers for

3c. Each.

W. Beveridge,

Pottery, Porcelain, Glass, &amp;c.,

1215 F St. &amp; 1214 G St.

Dulin &amp; Martin, Managers.

Your Corns Ache

during this hot weather? Don't suffer with corns any longer. Use STEVENS' CURE. That takes out both hard and soft corns without the slightest pain. We've sold it for years and know its virtues. Only 15c.

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OUR HUGE ELECTRIC SIGN.

Fireproof STORAGE.

\* \* You know what fireproof

\* \* storage means—perfect

\* \* protection for Household

\* \* Effects. Our building is

\* \* absolutely fireproof—with

\* \* fire alarms on every floor.

\* \* Matchless facilities. Low

\* \* rates for large rooms.

\* \* Carpets Cleaned.

\* \* Made bright and fresh as

\* \* new without injury. We

\* \* upholster and recover Fur-

\* \* niture—remake Mattress-

\* \* es. Wagons call.

\* \* The public is cordially invited to

\* \* call at any time and inspect our plant.

Stumph Bedding Co.,

7th and K streets,

Empire Carpet Cleaning Works.

No Charge

For sending GROCERIES, TABLE LINENS, etc., to any part of the country. We will deliver 50 miles of this city. WE PAY THE FREIGHT—pack and ship all orders free. We send the goods to your door, while you're at your country home for the summer.

W. B. Hoover, 1417 N. Y. Ave.

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F. S. WILLIAMS &amp; CO.

An Infallible Appetizer

Is WILLIAMS' CELERY COMPOUND. It sharpens the appetite—makes one hungry even on hot days—makes one ready for meals—and makes one thoroughly enjoy a hearty meal.

It's a peerless tonic—to enrich the blood—and build up the entire system.

Pint bottles—50c.

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Temple Drug Store,

Cor. 9th and F Streets.

Who Couldn't Keep Cool

\* \* With a case of our delicious

\* \* "Export" beer in the cellar

\* \*—and a few cold bottles

\* \* always on ice?

"Export"

\* \* is the most satisfying and

\* \* refreshing of thirst

\* \* quenchers—the finest of

\* \* beers.

\* \* Keep your ice box well supplied.

\* \* 24 bottles—sent in unopened wagon.

\* \* only \$1.25. Write or "phone."

Washington Brewery Co.

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The Busy Corner,

8th and Market Space.

S. Kann, Sons &amp; Co.

APPLY

The plummet of proof to our printed promises, and you will realize what sterling values are brought out in this advertisement. The economy of buying is so evident that it will draw you to the

Busy Corner

with the force of a magnet.

Black Organdies and Sheer Lawns.

100 pieces of extra fine Black Lawn—Organdy

finish—blue and jet black—as wide as the single

width comes. Standard price, 12½c. a yard. Our

reduced price. . . . . 8¾c.

20 pieces Fine Sheer Imported Black Organdy, ad-

vertised elsewhere as a leader at 25c. a yard. Our re-

duced price. . . . . 19c.

15 pieces very finest and sheerest Imported Black Organdy—noth-

ing better made or imported—guaranteed as to

color and wear—known as the regular 50c. quality.

Our reduced price. . . . . 35c.

30 pieces Mourning Dimities, neat designs, white

grounds with black figures, and black grounds with

white figures—12½c. grade—for. . . . . 6½c.

40 pieces White and Black Figured Lawns,

large, medium and small effects, strong and durable,

at the same time fine and sheer—12½c. quality—for. . . . . 8¾c.

We have a special assortment of Mourning

Lawns, which are worth 19c. a yard, which we are

selling at. . . . . 12½c.

First floor, main building.

Ducks, Crashes and Coverts.

Yard-wide White Duck Suiting, reduced from 16c.